

10/549869

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PATENT APPLICATION

9/22/05

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of : Robert ERATH, Georg GIERER and
Serial no. : Waldemar STARK
For :
Docket : CONTROL VALVE WITH A SHORT SWITCHING TIME
ZAHFRI P777US

MAIL STOP PCT

The Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent & Trademark Office
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

By way of preliminary amendment, please amend the above identified application as set forth below.

In the Drawings:

Please amend Figs. 1-4 of the drawings as indicated in red ink on the Annotated Marked-Up Drawings accompanying the attached Submission. **Also please enter the enclosed new Replacement Sheets of drawings, accompanying this Submission, which incorporate all of the requested drawing amendments.**

Substitute Specification:

Accompanying this response, please find a clean form substitute specification, without markings thereon, along with a copy of the original specification which shows the additions and deletions to the original specification with each of the paragraphs of the original specification numbered. The substitute specification does not include any new subject matter and only includes the same changes which are indicated on the enclosed marked-up copy of the original specification. Please enter the substitute specification into the record of this case.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-12, as well as any Chapter II amended claims, without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter therein, in favor of new claims 13-19 as follows.